

Invitation

Consecration and Service

Prayer of Gratitude (unison) – Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. Amen

Scripture: Luke 21:25-33 (The Message)

~Bill Eckert

“It will seem like all hell has broken loose — sun, moon, stars, earth, sea, in an uproar and everyone all over the world in a panic, the wind knocked out of them by the threat of doom, the powers-that-be quaking. And then — then! — they’ll see the Son of Man welcomed in grand style — a glorious welcome! When all this starts to happen, up on your feet. Stand tall with your heads high. Help is on the way!” He told them a story. “Look at a fig tree. Any tree for that matter. When the leaves begin to show, one look tells you that summer is right around the corner. The same here — when you see these things happen, you know God’s kingdom is about here. Don’t brush this off: I’m not just saying this for some future generation, but for this one, too — these things will happen. Sky and earth will wear out; my words won’t wear out.”.

Sermon “Help On the Way”

Hymn 153 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Vs 1 Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Vs 2 Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Light of Service *LARC - The Arc of Northwest CT*

~Alison Zeininger

We have a chance to offer financial gifts in support of Spirit-led work. Undesignated gifts go to the recipient named above. Please use the white envelopes in the pews to designate giving otherwise. There is no obligation, and we always welcome prayers for our LOS recipients. Thank you!

Offertory *Of the Father’s Love Begotten* - 13th c. plainsong, text arr. Prudentius, Neale and Baker

Doxology (two versions are offered) Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen. OR: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Sharing Joys and Church Life Updates

Sharing Prayer Concerns

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 176 *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates* (Worship and Rejoice)

Vs 1 Lift up your heads, O mighty gates: behold the king of glory waits! The King of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

Vs 2 Fling wide the portals of your heart: make it a temple set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Vs 3 Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to you here, Lord, abide! Let me your inner presence feel; your grace and love in me reveal.

Vs 4 So, come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin! Your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

Our Common Commission

Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* - H. Scheidemann

Please remain seated to listen or depart quietly.

We gladly list these prayer concerns and ask you to keep us apprised of any updates so that we have the most current information. If you would like a pastoral visit please call or email Pastor Erick (860-303-0910, reverendole@gmail.com).

Members needing our prayers:

Patty Cammilletti, Steven, Tina & Aaliyah Chausse, Linda Creedon, Bonnie Greenwood, Holly Kelsey, Will Kelsey, Arlene Patten, Dan Patten, Cindy Sinclair, John Thew

Ongoing concerns for our relatives and friends:

Annattie P., Eric, Jo, Donna Aakjar (Nancy Perry's sister), Andrew Anderson (Ruth Adotte), Jay Atkinson, Andrea Blacklow (Kristin Mudge's friend), Denis Combes (Jason Combes' father), John Funchion, Fran and Arnold Gellman (Tina Olsen's aunt and uncle), Judy Green, Dennis Carr Hannifin (Sally Carr's son), Nathan Hazeman (friend of David Bourne), Olivia Howard (Ky Byrne's cousin), Jim Korner (Liz Wilbur's brother), Bethany Lee, Serena Livingston (Kristin

Mudge), Kathy Loomis (substitute preacher), Rick Martin (Ruth Adotte), Rev. Kenric and Debby Prescott, Constance Rotondo (Jane Williams), Desi Smith (Bonnie Greenwood), Ryan Sterba, Rob Thew, Sue Ellen Thomas (Pastor Erick's sister), Dennis Watlington (Tim Hitchcock), Judi Welch

Those who are grieving - the families of:

Kerry Garside, Stephen Getz, Jackie Hamad, The Rev. Paul Heller, Avery Nelson, Aaron Pelletier, Sue Pratt, Owen Simmons, Mary Sager

In the wider community:

Leigh Cappabianca (missionary in Turkey), Laura Smith (missionary in Venezuela), The people of Haiti, Israel, Gaza, Ukraine - and all enduring ongoing violence, The people impacted by recent hurricanes Helene and Milton

CHANCES TO LEARN, LIVE & SERVE LOVE:

Angel Tree for Christmas 2024

Please click on the QR code at right and browse the gifts needed. Select the children that you would like to buy for by choosing the corresponding tag. Please note the number on the "tag" that you are choosing. In addition to putting the "tag" on the wrapped gifts, please also attach a list of what is being given. Wrapped gifts with the numbered "tag" on it need to be delivered to Church of Christ by noon next Sunday, December 8th. If you have any questions, please call Lisa McClave at 860-309-1443.



Advent Readers Still Needed - Please contact Pastor Erick if you would like to light one of our Advent candles during Advent (12/8 or 12/15) or on Christmas Eve.

"Getting to Know Jesus" Starts This Week - Wed. at 7 PM - 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

All are welcome to join this three-week Advent learning opportunity. Led by Pastor Erick, we will explore Scripture and other writings about Jesus as we approach our celebration of his birth. We will focus on: Predictions of the Messiah (Week One), God in Flesh (Week Two), and Beyond Bethlehem (Week Three). No experience is needed. Please let Pastor Erick know if you plan to take part.

Administrative Assistant Position – Barb LaMere plans to retire at the end of this year – she will be missed! Please take a moment to thank Barb directly. Interested parties should contact office@cofcucc.org.

2025 Financial Support Needed - All are invited to join in making a pledge of support for 2025 so that we can continue to serve as a beacon of hope, peace, joy and love, a place where those who need help can find it. [Click Here to Indicate Your Support for 2025](#). Automated Monthly

Giving is Available! To make a pledge, you may also call the church office (860-542-5721)
Tuesday through Friday, 9 AM to 2 PM.
Total Pledged as of 11/29: \$32,740
Pledge Range: \$30 to \$7,500
Average Pledge: \$1,723

Reverse Advent Calendar Available - Please help stock the shelves of the Food Pantry by taking part in our tradition of a Reverse Advent Calendar. During December, you may use the guide available by clicking [HERE](#) to fill a box that we invite you to deliver to the Norfolk Food Pantry here in Battell Chapel. Thank you!

Coffee Mugs "to Go" - Anyone who purchased a custom-made coffee mug in the past is invited to take them home – thank you!

"Clothes Closet" Donations Welcome

We would appreciate short jackets (no long coats). Thank you!

Food Pantry Items of the Week - This week the Food pantry especially needs: Any Staple Items You Have. Thank you!